

Special Section

The best of Plainfield High's Prom

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Asbury Park: Building a new spirit

By Gilda Rogers
Staff Writer

ASBURY PARK—Dilapidated structures and a barren boardwalk welcome visitors to the beach front of what was once the gem of the shore—Asbury Park. On the west side of town, the numerous boarded-up homes seem to say, "we're going out of business over here." Indeed, these are dispiriting images that have stolen the luster from Asbury Park.

After seventeen years of steady decline, the leadership in Asbury Park has gotten rid of the old—pointing of the finger and placing the blame on thinking by responding to the needs of the city with a new attitude, according to Mayor Kenneth "Buta" Samuels.

"We need to get back to the family type atmosphere that we once had," said Samuels, who is a lifelong resident of Asbury Park.

"It starts with the mayor. We're on the rise."

Hazel Samuels, director of housing and community development, described this love affair with the city as a different spirit, which is breeding new life amongst residents. And the program Samuels developed one year ago called STARS (Strategic Target Area Rebuilding Spirit) is playing a vital role in literally reshaping Asbury Park, while being met with favorable fanfare from the community and HUD officials.

The plan, which encompasses a 10-block radius including Springwood Ave., Atkins Ave., Borden Ave., and Avenue A, all of which have severely deteriorating, sub-standard housing infrastructure has officially been targeted to undergo a major overhaul. The physical aspect of the proposed plan will get underway on Sept. 15, 1999.



Asbury Park, L-R boarded up house on Springwood Ave. and deserted motel on beachfront will soon become a thing of the past with redevelopment projects. "It's a redevelopment project with disbelief and optimism," said Samuels. "There was a level of uncertainty by residents along

State troopers fire off 27 bullets in I-80 car chase

MORRISTOWN (AP) —

Family and friends remembered Stanton Lamont Crew as a rotund, jovial guy who loved computers and barbecue and once wanted to be a cop.

They also shared in the shock and sadness that following the 31-year-old former waiter's death Wednesday in a hail of police gunfire along Interstate 80.

Authorities said Crew was giving a friend a ride home from a tavern when a Dover police officer tried to pull him over for driving erratically. Instead of stopping, Crew sped off in his Chevy Camaro and led police and state troopers on a 15-minute chase.

The pursuit ended on the interstate in Parsippany-Troy Hills when an overpowered Camaro was struck by four police bullets. Investigators said he had rammed the police vehicles, placing the officers in fear for their lives.

"My boy would never run from the police," Crew's mother, Lillie Crew, told The Record of Hackensack for Thursday's editions.

"Twenty-seven times? They shot 27 times?" she asked.

"Why?"

Lillie Crew called the shooting unjustified. The family has asked the New York civil rights leader Rev. Al Sharpton for assistance. Private investigator Ken Timmons of Plainfield met with the Crews late Wednesday night.

Authorities said videotape from cameras in two State Police cars shows that the use of deadly force was justified, Morris County Prosecutor John Dangler said.

denied that there was any racial motivation in the pursuit and shooting of Crew, who is black.

At least one civilian witnessed the end of the chase.

"It was like 'Dukes of Hazard';" low truck driver Joseph Conte told The Star-Ledger for Thursday's editions.

After the Camaro stopped and officers gathered on the highway near the Powder Mill Towing impound yard, Conte said he climbed on top of a truck for a better look.

"First there were two shots. Boom and boom, and then I heard a barrage of shots," he said. Finally, he heard a voice give the command: "Clear. Cease fire."

Conte said he did not have a good view of the Camaro's actions, however.

Dangler said Crew's passenger, Adrienne Hart, reported that Crew was afraid to stop for cops because he was driving with a suspended license and without insurance. Hart was treated Wednesday for a gunshot wound to the leg.

Crew was a graduate of Morristown High School. A cousin, Sharon Johnson, said he once was a police officer, but he was too overweight to qualify.

At the time of his death, Crew was on an account executive at the Electrocomp computer company in Dover. He recently had left his job as a waiter at the American Bar and Grill in Morristown.

"He was a great employee," Jimmy's assistant manager Jonathan DeFosse told the New York Times. "He was one of the most honest people I ever met."

Heritage festival draws thousands

By Paul Nelson

NEWARK—They came proudly strutting down Broad Street, faces beaming with an immense sense of purpose and pride during the African-American Heritage Parade in downtown Newark on Sunday, May 30.

It was attitude with a capital 'A' and the sometimes oppressive heat which shot into the mid 80's only served to brighten the faces of parade goers and participants.

"It's a glorious day and I wouldn't have missed this grand celebration for anything in the world," said Orange resident Duke Kingston, who came with his fiancé and their 2-year-old son. He said he wanted his family to experience a sense of African pride and dignity.



1999 Hal Jackson bears wave to the thousands of spectators at the Annual African American Heritage Day Festival in Newark.

It was known as Crispus Attucks Day.

The crowd was fed a steady diet of high school bands, cheerleaders, colorful floats, step teams and marching bands all making their way along the route from Lincoln Park to the New Jersey Performing Arts Center.

From tiny tots to sedate seniors, people from all walks of life came to bear witness to a spectacular show replete with entertainment and education.

The late senator Wyona Lipman

was honored for her 27 years of dedicated service to the local community. Additionally, Newark Mayor Sharpe James presented the key to the city to radio legend Hal Jackson for his outstanding contributions as a radio journalist. Jackson whose career in radio spans 60 years recalls his days in the city during the riots.

"I was in the middle of it," said Jackson, who is a fixture on WBLS 107.5 fm. in New York broadcast his show live from the parade.

After all the tributes, New Jersey's largest parade roared off with a motorcade of classic cars lead by Grand Marshal John Thomas. The 72-year-old Thomas was the organizer of the very first parade. Esteemed educator Dr. E. Alma Flagg served as deputy Grand Marshal.

Although the parade which attracted a record number of people may have been the centerpiece of the holiday weekend, there was lots else to do.

Nearby Weequahic Park played host to the heritage festival which also drew huge crowds.

"It was a banner year in terms of attendance over the four days of activities," said Scott who predicted over 400,000 people attended all of the events.

The heritage festival featured expos and shows of this year's health fair where area hospitals and clinics provided free screenings and tests for assorted medical conditions including blood hypertension, diabetes, and glaucoma.

For the little ones, there was a petting zoo and you could eat until your hearts content from a wide array of foods. There was also live entertainment at the park.

Scott applauded the contributions and efforts of this year's sponsors and says plans will soon begin for the 22nd edition of the heritage festival and parade.

Back leaders work to improve Africa

By Carl Chase and Gilda Rogers

Black Americans continued intensifying efforts to help Black Africa fulfill its vast potential as more than 600 black leaders traveled recently to Ghana in West Africa to form new ties with the most of established relationships.



Director of Project 2000 at Seton Hall University, Al Bundy.

The Fifth Annual African-American Summit in Accra, a capital city of nearly 2 million, featured a conference of some 30 African mayors with 30 from the U.S. a trade and investment exposition and an effort to stem the ravages of AIDS.

The National Conference of Black Mayors called President Clinton's proposed African American Trade Act an important step to foster viable trade links with Africa, said new president Mayor Jesse Norwood of Pritchard, Ala.

Norwood said he determined to use the now-dormant bill passes the Congress, he said.

Norwood and his advisory committee, including East Orange Mayor Robert Bowser, will draft a position paper on the situation in several weeks, he said. "We're going to circulate this widely," he said.

The pending bill, introduced to Congress after Clinton's 1998 trip to Africa, would confirm Africa's ripeness as a premier trade center and set out the European middle man, currently the go-to agent for cultivating trade between Africa and America, Norwood said.

Former colonies still must deal with U.S. companies through European institutions, he said. Funds that should be wired immediately to North America are held up for days, forming a bad credit record, he said, "while the European country collects interest on the money."

Many people associate import-export trade with African exchange, Mayor Bowser said. "Often it's exchanges of people, or just knowledge," East Orange has a sister city Akwape, over 35 miles north of Accra.

In the campaign to fight HIV and AIDS in Africa, a White House delegation including Rev. Jesse Jackson and Centers for Disease Control staff met with African and American medical doctors, clinicians, and social workers.

Another key focus was education and vocational training. One of the Summit's goals is building over 1,000 schools and training over 1,000 teachers in Africa, a 4-year-old effort begun by the summit's organizers.

Teens complete African Rites of Passage journey

By Lucy Sanchez

In Ancient Africa annual ceremonial rites were conducted by the elders of the community to prepare youth for the future. The sacred Rites of Passage crafted each youth individually until he/she was ready to embrace the rest of his life, this process could last anywhere from three months to three years.

Barbara Walker, author director brought this ancient tradition to the lives of youngsters in Perth Amboy. Inspired by her childhood memories Walker's vision came to life this year. "As a child my grandmother used to take me to ceremonies in Jersey City and I remembered how beautiful the girls were," stated Walker. "It was like they were little Castles."



Leah Hilliard and Luke Burroughs

used for me because was the king. I had to set a lot of standards for myself."

Burroughs, currently a senior at Wardlaw Harrington in Edison, is a star athlete who plays football, basketball and baseball. He has just been accepted to Purdue University on a full scholarship.

This year queen Leah Hilliard, 16, stated the coalition helped her get closer to God. She said the youth had to memorize the Lord's Prayer, Psalms, the books of the Bible and much more.

Hilliard stated that faith in God and support from others helped her stay on the right track in life, and she believes it can help others. "Don't let the evil in the world be so strong to you, you can't think for yourself," stated Hilliard. "Look for support." She's always support from somebody and if you can't find it get on your knees because God is always there."

Other participants in the coalition included Justin Wright, Jamal Wells, Brandon Robinson, Bryant Barrett, Nasir Yaw Asamoah, Deja Davis, Jessica Brooks, Tiffany Gibbons, Latasha Murphy and Tiffany Pompey-Alford.

Long Branch takes the law into their own hands

By Lucy Sanchez

Horrid stories of racial profiling and police brutality have plagued the inner-cities for too long. They have been brought to the forefront of the country through a wave of reports, rallies, and indictments streaming from Connecticut to California. New Jersey's black and Latino families are furious and deeply saddened that their children are being harassed, beaten, and killed by authority figures.

Now that the problem has the undivided attention of the nation — organizations and politicians are actively seeking solutions to curtail the deteriorating relationship between law enforcement officers and youth. Secretary of State Rev. DeForest Soares addressed over two hundred elected officials, educators and youth from Long Branch Middle School for the first "Law and You Youth Conference" on May 21.

The Greater Long Branch NAACP, Brookdale Community College and Allstate Insurance Company strived to improve verbal and non-verbal communications, basic rights and responsibilities, and tips on what to do if arrested.

NAACP conference co-chairman, Robert J. Harrison stated the issue of communication between police and youth is one of the highest priorities in America for urban children. "The police are there to assist and not to be the aggressor," stated Harrison. "With all the negativity that's out there now, the Greater Long Branch NAACP felt it was imperative that some type of communication mechanism be put together."

Assemblyman Tom Smith envisioned a community where the youth would once again seek officers as friends. He also stressed the importance of students respecting law enforcement officers and increasing positive communications amongst the two.

After a series of workshops and activities, the youth and the 'men in blue,' had a new found respect for each other.

The youth had the wrong conception of officers' stated Assemblyman Tom Smith. "The main concern of the students was how police approached them. What I would like to see accomplished is that police become known in the community. We want to have police more receptive to youth and their problems."

Community Calendar

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 9

EAST BRUNSWICK — The Quilette Garden Gallery presents the work of sculptor Paul Jefferies in "Men of Stone and Steel." Call (732) 257-4340 for time and information.

THURSDAY, JUNE 10

MONTCLAIR — The Essex County Clerk's Office holds a town hall meeting at the Municipal Building, 6:30 a.m. (973) 621-4651.

NEW YORK — The New York Spartacist League holds a forum on the Tammany Square massacre in 1989 at the Club Room, 7:30 p.m. (212) 267-1025.

FRIDAY, JUNE 11

NEW YORK — The Museum of the City of New York holds a discussion on the life of actor and activist Paul Robeson through June 12, 6 p.m. (212) 534-1672.

SATURDAY, JUNE 12

WAYNE — SinglesFaces, Inc. hosts a singles function at the Wayne Manor, 9 p.m. (732) 429-2406.

PATERSON — Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Inc. presents a scholarship dinner and dance at Wayne Manor beginning at 7 p.m. (973) 777-4412.

TINTON FALLS — The Monmouth Urban League will host its Sixth Annual Equal Opportunity Awards Dinner dance at Gibbs Hall Officer's Club beginning at 6 p.m. (732) 345-7066.

LINCROFT — The Monmouth County Park System hosts a trip to North Tarrytown, NY to visit historic mansions and manors. 10 a.m. (732) 842-4000.

NEW BRUNSWICK — The Seventh Annual New Brunswick Rock and Music Festival takes place on George Street. The event showcases the best live jazz and international outside. 12 p.m. (732) 545-0026.

SUNDAY, JUNE 13

IRVINGTON — A reception and exhibit of Willie "Phantom" Koseoff's art work will be on display at Mario's, 3 p.m. (908) 868-8277.

MONTCLAIR — The Elysium String Quartet and the Metropolitan Chorus perform for one night only at the Presbyterian Church of Upper Montclair, 4 p.m. (973) 773-9383.

THURSDAY, JUNE 17

PLAINFIELD — The Plainfield Center for Stronger Families will host a book reading of "Fantastic Flights with

Mother Goose," to benefit family literacy at the Plainfield Public Library, 5:30 p.m. (908) 226-8076.

FRIDAY, JUNE 18

ELIZABETH — Aspin, Inc. of New Jersey host its Second Annual Summer Breakfast Conference at the Wynton Garden Hotel, 9 a.m. (973) 464-7554.

SATURDAY, JUNE 19

EAST RUTHERFORD — The Beta Alpha Omega Alpha Kappa Sorority Inc. of Newark will salute recipients of its Scholarship 100 and Community Service Awards at the Sheraton Meadowlands Hotel, 11:30 a.m. (973) 631-1087.

SCOTCH PLAINS — SinglesFaces, Inc. hosts a singles function at Paradise Renaissance, 9 p.m. (732) 426-2406.

SUNDAY, JUNE 20

NEW YORK — The Morris-Jumel Mansion hosts a Father's Day Concert of 18th Century Music, 2 p.m. (212) 923-8088.

NEW YORK — The South Street Seaport Museum hosts a fathers and friends fishing trip on the Pioneer Ship, 9 a.m. (212) 748-8733.

MONDAY, JUNE 21

LIVINGSTON — The Essex County Clerk's Office will hold a county meeting at Livingston Town Hall, 2 p.m. (973) 621-4921.

SATURDAY, JUNE 25

NEW BRUNSWICK — The Crossroads Theater Company presents the gospel play "Another Chance." Call (973) 606-2652 for time and information.

SATURDAY, JUNE 26

NEWARK — Karim Abdallah Productions presents The Hard Point Karate Championships at the Essex County College Gymnasium, 8 p.m. (973) 623-6419.

FAIRFIELD — SinglesFaces, Inc. hosts a singles function at the Radisson Hotel, 9 p.m. (732) 462-2406.

SUNDAY, JUNE 27

LINCROFT — The Monmouth County Park System hosts a trip to Lily's Langtry's Dinner Theater in Prussia, PA for food and music with live music from the 50's and 60's, 1:45 p.m. (732) 842-4000.

ISELIN — SinglesFaces, Inc. holds a singles function at the Woodbridge Hilton, 8 p.m. (732) 462-2406.

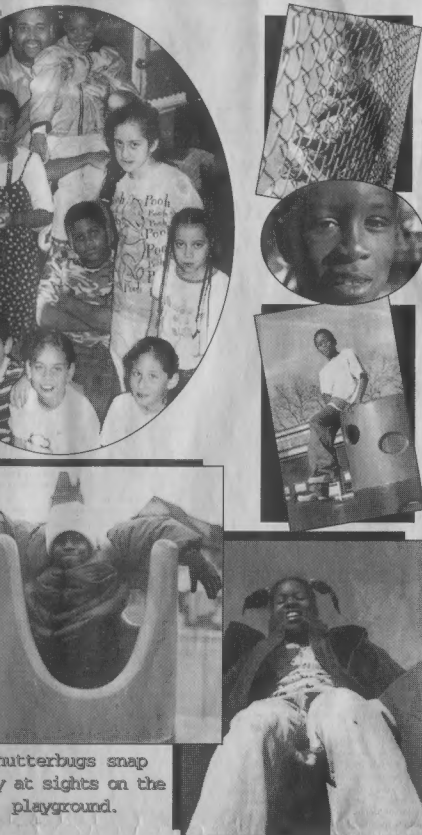
The Stillman Shutterbugs

PLAINFIELD — On May 24, 1999, the Stillman Shutterbugs witnessed a huge event, a bill signing which will place Plainfield back on the list as an Abbott district. This will guarantee Plainfield more funds to enhance it's educational system.

This group of Stillman students met at least once a week after school to learn the craft of photography under the leadership of their principal, Chris Lommerin. The elementary shutterbugs were granted a \$1,000 budget to work with from the Plainfield Education Foundation, during their kick-off year. They have traveled to the Museum of Photography, the Museum of Modern Art, Central Park, New York, local playgrounds and school rallies.

These youth worked hard and had a lot of fun together. Their photography display has toured the Plainfield Public Library, City Hall, Plainfield Job Fair, and the Board of Education. The exhibit's next stop will be at Muhlenberg Hospital.

The prize photographers were Jacqueline Acevedo, 10, Charnice Boyce, 10, Christopher Cardona, 11, Courtney Folk, 10, Hassan Francis, 10, Anyalydia Santana, 12, and Adriana Zamora, 11. Photos were taken by the following students: (top right to bottom) Zamora, Cardona, Acevedo and Folk; (bottom left to right) Santana, and Boyce.



Shutterbugs snap away at sights on the playground.

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— Paul Robeson

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National Briefs

REPRESENTATIVE WILLIAM L. CLAY ANNOUNCES RETIREMENT

(NNPA) — Congressman William L. Clay (D-Mo.) recently announced to a gathering at Harris-Stowe State College in St. Louis that he will not seek re-election to the U.S. House of Representatives at the end of his term.

Clay, 68, was elected to the House in 1968. He was the first black congressman from Missouri.

"You cannot begin to imagine how proud I am to have had the privilege of representing the citizens of this district for over 30 years. It's a reality that only a few have experienced and by the very nature of the position, only a few will ever suffer the emotional pleasure and exhilarating anxiety involved in the process."

Clay is currently the third most senior member of the House and the ranking Democrat on the Committee on Education and the Workforce. His legislative achievements include Hatch Act reform, the Family and Medical Leave Act, the Pension Reform Act, laws governing plant closing notification, and increased wages, health and safety benefits for working class people.

NAACP PRESIDENT DECLINES RUN FOR BALTIMORE MAYORAL

(NNPA) — Kweisi Mfume, NAACP president and CEO, recently announced that he will remain with the organization and not run for mayor of Baltimore City.

"Yesterday, for the first time in weeks, I awakened with absolute clarity about my future and my work. I know that my job is to finish the work I have begun to help create a more just and humane society for all people. The plethora of inequities and disparate treatment in our society cries out for advocates of social justice from all races to get involved and to stay involved. I cannot walk away from that fight at this time," said Mfume during the press conference at the NAACP headquarters in Baltimore. "As such, I am not — nor will I — be a candidate for mayor."

Mfume said he was forced to revisit the idea of running for mayor after over 200 Baltimoreans formed a draft committee to encourage him to change his mind.

HEALTH ALERT SOUNDED OVER PLASTIC BABY BOTTLES

WASHINGTON (IPS) — A coalition of health, consumer and environmental groups want U.S. regulators to remove potentially harmful chemicals used to make plastic food containers, including baby bottles and bowls in use around the globe.

The groups sounded a warning bell earlier this month following recent scientific findings that showed higher levels of the synthetic chemical bisphenol-A, known as BPA, leaching from plastic bowls and baby bottles.

Researchers said the chemical had disrupted normal hormonal functioning and caused adverse health effects in laboratory test animals, even at very low doses. BPA also was used as an "inert" ingredient in the manufacture of pesticides.

"This is not intended to scare parents," added Peter Houser, a scientific researcher on hormone-disrupting chemicals and brain development at the University of Maryland Medical School. "We are just asking for caution."

PASTORS AND COMMUNITY LEADERS MEET IN CALIFORNIA

(NNPA) — The Coalition on Urban Renewal & Education (CURE) hosted its annual Empowerment Conference, "From Entitlement to Empowerment," June 3 and 4 in Los Angeles, Calif.

The mission of the conference was to empower black pastors and inner city community leaders with the information necessary to utilize the Charitable Choice provision of the Federal Welfare Reform Bill, organizers said.

Bail set at \$200,000 for dragging suspects

By Jim Davenport

KINGSTREE, S.C. (AP) — The two men accused of dragging a black man alongside their pickup truck were held in the Williamsburg County jail Friday on \$200,000 bond.

Williamsburg County Sheriff Kelvin Washington said he has found no evidence that the incident was racially motivated.

Eric W. Jones, 38, of Gastonia, N.C., and Arthur Bruce Marshall, 34, of Georgetown, were each charged with assault and battery with intent to kill. Marshall also was charged with possession of a stolen vehicle.

In warrants for Jones and Marshall,

Charone Green said he was called over to the truck and they asked about an individual. "The passenger pulled the victim (Green) partially into the truck," according to Green's statement.

Green told police he was dragged for nearly a quarter mile. Questions remained on a motive for the incident. In a statement to Williamsburg deputies, Jones said he was drunk and recalled little about the incident.

Jones said he and Marshall had gotten off work and drank a 12-pack of beer. Marshall asked Jones to ride with him to Andrews in Williamsburg County. All Jones remembered was the truck went into the ditch and they ran through woods.

Jones said he could hear someone yelling behind them as Marshall yelled "Let's go. Let's go." They spent the night in a nearby house with an unidentified white male.

After being told that he was being charged with assault and battery with intent to kill, Jones said he wanted to talk with a lawyer. Green, who was questioned for two hours Friday, would not say what he was asked.

Green wasn't sure if there was some racial motivation in the incident. "Maybe it could have been, maybe not," he said. "This didn't have to happen."

Green's stepfather, Jerome McCray, found out about the incident when he got a page that flashed "911" on his pager as

he drove his over-the-road truck through Pennsylvania. Green's mother, Florita McCray, wrestled with the question of whether the incident was racial.

"I think they just done (it) because they could," Mrs. McCray said. "We live in the white people's neighborhood so we really can't say it's all about races."

The drug allegations "make me feel angry, real angry," she said. Green said he was holding a white napkin in his hand when he was grabbed. "One of the officers said it could have been mistaken for drugs."

"I'm just glad that my son is all right. That's the main thing. It could have been worse," she said.

Sharpton leads prayer vigil for Dante Johnson

NEW YORK (AP) — The Rev. Al Sharpton led a prayer vigil for Dante Johnson, the unarmed youth shot by police on a Bronx street.

The minister and black activist joined more than 100 people for the nighttime service in front of Lincoln Hospital, where Johnson is recuperating from being shot in the abdomen early Wednesday morning. Among those in attendance were the 16-year-old's mother, grandmother and great-grandmother.

"My grandson was a very good boy to me and I love him very much," said Johnson's great-grandmother, Cassetta Scott.

"He's not a hoodlum. He's just a nice little kid," she added.

They bowed their heads and prayed for the wounded youth, who was in critical but stable condition.

According to police, three Street Crime Unit officers — all in uniform — were patrolling the Morris Heights section of the Bronx at 12:20 a.m. Wednesday looking for suspects wanted in a robbery pattern. They spotted Johnson and another teen standing near a large group of people.

Police have said one of the teens appeared to reach into his waistband for a gun. So far, no weapon has been found.

Sharpton has vowed to continue the type of vigil held Saturday until the police department provides satisfactory answers to questions about alleged brutality.

Action plan laid out for annual Greek picnic

PHILADELPHIA (AP) — Organizers of the city's controversial Greek Picnic are planning ahead to promote the event as safe and family-oriented in hopes of avoiding a repeat of the violence and sexual harassment reported last year.

The National Pan-Hellenic Council, which sponsors the annual gathering of black fraternities and sororities, has laid out a plan of action designed to eliminate the types of incidents that marred the 1998 celebration, a 25-year Philadelphia tradition.

The July 24 event will be "a zero-tolerance zone" for unruly behavior, said Gregory Wright, president of the Philadelphia Alumni Chapter of the National Pan-Hellenic Council.

Under the plan, members of the Greek-letter organizations will serve as

"deputies," working alongside police to keep behavior in check. There will be an after-party celebration at the Convention Center participants can attend instead of milling around on crowded South Street. And older alumni will be encouraged to bring their children.

The picnic culminates a week of activities beginning July 18 that will include worship services, a basketball tournament and poetry readings.

The Greek Picnic began with a few dozen participants in 1974 and has grown into one of Philadelphia's largest annual events, and one of the nation's biggest gatherings of African American Greek-letter organizations. Last year, the picnic pumped about \$24 million into the local economy, city tourism officials said. More than 175,000 African-American fraternity and soror-



Members of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority and Omega Psi Phi Fraternity

ty members attended last year's event.

But in recent years, the socializing, networking and service-oriented activi-

ties have been overshadowed by incidents of violence and harassment of women.



Lelon Hill

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Life is what you make it

Good times, bad times, happy times and sad times, sound familiar. Sometimes life seems like a roller coaster and you wonder why you even bother. The twists and turns happen because we are not in control. It makes you not even want to be happy anymore for fear that as soon as you start enjoying life that it'll all be shattered by bad news. Sometimes people may feel that they have nothing to live for and especially when they are young, they have a lot of life ahead of them. Well, I'm not going to sugarcoat anything. Life is full of trials, tests and tribulations. What makes life so fulfilling and vibrant is that you endure these tests and hurdle over obstacles with faith, grace and confidence. Life is only what you make it. If you choose to rage, despair and be depressed because you have been given a bad hand of cards in the deck of life then you will follow. However, if you take that deck of cards and learn new tricks then happiness will soon follow.

Everyone has their own hell to live in. The major goal is to make sure you don't burn in that hell. You must find happiness and joy in the simplest things in life: the smell of fresh air, a little child smiling, a loving couple, an act of kindness, the colors of the rainbow. After we learn how to value the little things in our existence over the fact that you have lived another day, the fact that you have food on your table, clothes on your back, and a roof over your head are things that you should be thankful for everyday. The fact that there's always another generation coming up after you who can help to make life easier for is inspirational. The fact that you are giving and charitable will always result in a moment of happiness. Even moments, when you give of yourself you will always get more in return.

Find out what makes you happy. Be a little selfish sometimes and do what you feel is right for you at that special moment. Treat yourself like the King and Queens that you are. Know that there is a world full of life and opportunity. We have to be brave enough to seek it and humble enough to glorify the experience.

Therefore, know that life is not going to be easy. If it was then we would not appreciate the good times as much. We would not appreciate the support of our families, friends and spiritually as much if they were not there for us when we needed them. Remember, no matter how hard life seems to be hitting you and knocking you down you must get up and fight because you are here to enjoy life, you, because you have yet fulfilled your destiny in this great adventure and because happiness is as simple as a smile. So get up and start living!

"Reparations for the Black...or else!"

A disproportionate number of African Americans are in jail and the judicial system. Unemployment among blacks is traditionally twice that of whites, and black institutions, social agencies, education and communities are not funded on a par with whites. Yet, leaders of America's public and private sectors deny that an institutional pattern of discrimination still exists in this country and still refuse to apologize for slavery and 400 years of racial bondage for African Americans.

President Clinton says, "The African Americans with whom I discuss this issue, say it is not important" to have an apology. But President Clinton may want to open his ears to the many African American people. More people than he knows are concerned about the discrimination that still exists in this country and are demanding compensation for wrongs that continue being done to them. Similar to the African Indians and the Native Americans have been compensated for wrongs done to them, more African Americans than he knows want Clinton and the U.S. Congress to apologize, as well as pay us what is owed.

Most blacks know the sting of America's institution of racism. Instead of diminishing in church and discussion, as appointed black leaders would have it, the concept of Black Reparations gains momentum with each case of discrimination in the work place, restaurant facility and judicial system. In a poll among blacks regarding the question: "When asked: Do you think that the descendants of African slaves deserve reparations?" Overwhelmingly, the response was 70 percent - "yes." Members of the movement say Black Reparations are: 1) the debt owed to blacks for the centuries of unjust slavery; 2) the national efforts to the public good that built America's early economy and 2) debt owed from discriminatory wage and employment patterns blacks have been subjected to since emancipation.

Robert L. Brock, an attorney who has incessantly litigated the issue. He says "The wealth of America is our legal property. But, we must make our legal claims to get money as others have. The claims and gotten money." Brock's Washington, D.C., based Self-Determination Committee is bringing a high-level of movement to get together in Washington, D.C., June 11, 1999 to educate blacks on how to make more noise about the wrongs and make claims for reparations for reparations will occur just three blocks from the White House, at Metropolitan A.M.E. Church, 1518 M Street.

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By Thomas P. Jandris

Many urban school districts are under siege by political and community leaders who blame them for inefficiency and low performance in the city public schools.

The Pennsylvania legislature recently threatened to take over Philadelphia's public schools, an equitable view of the district's plight. In Chicago, the state legislature gave the mayor control of city schools. In Baltimore, the state permitted with the city to run its schools. In Detroit, a new law stripped the elected board of its authority, and turned the system over to the mayor and a newly appointed board.

It is clear that many people are dissatisfied with the performance of urban public schools. However, as more and more cities refuse the way their schools are governed, there is little evidence or consensus about what changes, if any, produce the best results. In other words, is there a connection between how an education system is governed and student learning?

School governance refers to the institutions and individuals who make decisions about a state or school district's education policies. Historically, urban school districts have operated between centralized and decentralized decision making. Today, with vouchers, charter schools and privatization on the one hand, and state takeover and mayoral control on the other, neither one is dominating.

Ultimately, parents of urban students want the same things for their children that suburban and rural parents want - a safe environment where students can excel. However, while the desired outcome may be the same, the areas face challenges in educating their young people that differ from their suburban and rural counterparts.

To begin with, urban school systems often are dramatically larger than those in suburban and rural areas. Urban school districts and urban school districts are responsible for an enormous number of students.

And, whether we like it or not, urban areas have higher concentrations of poor children and single parent families, unemployment and students with greater needs. This is juxtaposed with a tremendously large system that is not equipped to be responsive in such an environment.

There also is increased instability in leadership and a perception that special interest groups play a greater role in influencing school board elections. And, last, it is difficult for city schools to recruit and keep teachers.

"If we do not direct our attention to the governance challenges actually faced by public education, we will not again be the victims of missed opportunities," said Dr. James Renner, chairman of the Education Commission of the States (ECS) National Commission on Governing America's Schools. The Commission is examining an array of issues, such as how cities and communities can make informed decisions about what will work for their children. It will announce its recommendations this November.

• Who are the members of the district's school board?

• Who is the superintendent of the district?

• Who is my state school representative? State senator?

• Who are the members of my state school board?

• Who do I want making decisions about my child's schooling?

Should principals, teachers and parents make decisions about their own school?

• If so, which decisions?

These questions provide a starting point for helping parents make informed decisions about an important aspect of their child's education. Urban school districts can participate in an ECS' web site on this subject on ECS' web site at www.ecs.org.

Thomas P. Jandris is director of policy research and implementation for the Education Commission of the States.

Blacks "Gore" by the media lie

By R.D. Davis

It is easy to control the minds of a people. All one has to do is change the history of the past. This is exactly what has happened with the legacy of former Democratic U.S. Senator Al Gore Sr. of Tennessee.

Al Gore Sr. was the father of the current vice president and his mythical "support" of civil rights. He was a NAACP Vice President. Gore said his father lost his Senate seat because he supported civil rights during the 1950s.

Al Gore Sr. never set history straight. Al Gore Sr., together with the rest of the southern Democrats, voted against the Civil Rights Act of 1964.

Congressional Quarterly reported that, in the House of Representatives, 61 percent of Democrats (152 for, 96 against) voted for the Civil Rights Act of 1964. In the Senate, 69 percent of Democrats (46 for, 21 against) voted for the bill.

Al Gore Sr. was a member of the Southern Democrats' filibuster against the Act. It was Dirksen who often took to the Senate floor to declare, "This is where the time has come. It will not be denied." Dirksen's greatest triumph earned him the Leadership Conference of Civil Rights Award, presented by then NAACP Chairman Roy Wilkins, for his remarkable civil rights leadership.

To inform yourself, so you can learn for yourself about this important historical event, all official records of the Civil Rights Act can be found in the June 1964 issues of "Congressional Quarterly."

Al Gore Sr. did not stop at simply voting against the Civil Rights Act of 1964. In addition, Congressional Quarterly reported that Gore attempted to send the Act to the Senate Judiciary Committee with an amendment to say "in defiance of court desegregation order, federal funds could not be held from any school districts." Gore sought to take the teeth out of the Act in the event it passed.

Obviously, Senator Gore was "elated" at the idea of young Al Jr. going to school with black children. However, the future vice president attended an elite private school.

In the end, the Gore Amendment was defeated by the vote of 74-25. Senator J. William Fulbright of Arkansas, at the present Bill Clinton's political mentor, was among the 23 southern Democratic senators and only one Republican voting with Gore for the racist amendment.

Republican Barry Goldwater of Arizona voted against the Civil Rights Act because he was sure the nation would be transformed into a "police state" as a result of some of its provisions. He did not want to throw out the "bad" laws of the past. "Water" History, of course, labeled Goldwater a racist even though he voted against the Gore Amendment to increase the appointment of federal judges in the South. Young noted that the best civil rights judges were Republicans appointed by President Dwight Eisenhower.

Young admitted, "These judges are the most mighty unsung heroes of the civil rights movement." History tends to unilaterally and falsely depict Republicans as racists when southern Democrats truly deserve this reputation. Young, southern Democrats as both President and Vice President. That would never be the case without the power of the lie and the liberal news media to alter people's impressions.

Lies can ensnare men, but the truth shall set them free. I challenge you, the reader, to take the time to research the facts about our past in publications like "Congressional Quarterly" and "The East-Asian." Once you educate yourself, you will no longer be deceived by the fabulists. No longer will you be "gored" by a lie.

R.D. Davis is a writer and radio talk show host in Huntsville, Alabama.

By Earl Ofari Hutchinson

Black women: "The new menace to society?"

Many area residents affectionately called her "Mom" and described her as sweet and harmless. She was a housewife, middle-aged, African-American woman who had become a familiar figure on the streets of mid-city Los Angeles.

Last week's residents shook their heads last night in puzzlement and outrage over the murder of "Mom." This was the Los Angeles Police officers. Police claim they stopped to question her about a stolen shopping cart and they shot her when she threatened them with a screw driver.

Their story was hotly disputed by witnesses who say that the officers shot "Mom" as she walked away. But, even if she did what police said, how much of a threat was a middle-aged, diminutive woman? Couldn't the officers have fired a warning shot, radioed for help or used non-lethal force such as a stun gun, tasers, rubber bullets, tear gas pellets, pepper spray, or bean bags to subdue her?

The question is: Was the slaying of "Mom" an aberration or is it just deadly business as usual for LAPD? This is the police department, that in the wake of the Rodney King beating, became the national poster agency for police abuse.

The American Civil Liberties Union (ACLU) Rights Commission concluded that problems of abuse still plague the LAPD and L.A. County Sheriffs Department and recommended the appointment of an independent prosecutor to investigate police abuse in the area.

Sadly, the slaying of "Mom" comes several months after the murder of Tyisha Miller, another African-American woman, by Riverside police officers. The number of African-American women shot under questionable circumstances by police officers in Los Angeles and Riverside has reached

five in the past three years. This unprecedented pattern of killings is a harsh reminder that for many in law enforcement, black women are increasingly regarded as society's new "problem."

While much of the media has always stereotyped black men as lazy, violent and prone to crime, black women are being typed much the same way. Image Assault: The image of the sexually immoral and physically aggressive black woman has been used in law and public policy. In many cases, police, prosecutors and the courts ignore or lightly punish rape, sexual abuse and assaults against black women.

Devalued lives: Black women are far more likely to be raped, assaulted and murdered than non-black women. They are far less likely to have the media treat crimes against them as seriously as crimes against men. The rape and murder of seven-year-old Sherrie Iverson at a Nevada casino in 1997 is another classic example. There were numerous features and cover stories in the major press on her White teen killer, but none were done on Iverson.

Prison: For the first time in African American black women in some states - are being imprisoned at nearly the same rate as white men. They even times more likely to be jailed than white women.

Homelessness: The killing of "Mom" spotlighted not only the issue of police brutality but also the issue of homelessness among black women. They are being viewed as deviant and violent. And as such, they will continue to be treated as deviant by many in law enforcement as the new menace to society.

Earl Ofari Hutchinson is the author of "The Grass in Black and Black." email: church4u@aol.com

The "Black Star" of Africa and America

In this place where the Black Star is so prominent, I would like to take time to salute the living Black Star of Africa, and the Black Star of America, and myself, none other than Sumari Conner.

Rev. Leon Sullivan

After all, this Baptist preacher from Philadelphia, began times in the career - as founder of the Opportunities Industrialization Centers (OIC), as author of the "Call to Action Principles" to address the needs of African Americans, and as founder-convenor of the bi-annual African American American Summits.

He was the first African American to be named pastor of the bi-annual African American American Summits. He was the first African American to be named pastor of the bi-annual African American American Summits.

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BUSINESS CALENDAR

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 9

PLAINFIELD — United National Bank offers a workshop on investing at the bank's educational center, 10 a.m. (908) 753-7364.

TEANECK — The Port Authority of New Jersey and New York and The New York/New Jersey Monthly Purchasing Group presents 1999 Marketing & Business Expo at the Marriott at Glenstone Hotel. Call (212) 562-2334 for time.

NEPTUNE — The Regional Business Partnership and Continental Airlines hosts a workshop in time management at the bank's educational center, 10 a.m. (908) 753-7364.

THURSDAY, JUNE 10

PLAINFIELD — United National Bank offers a workshop in time management at the bank's educational center, 10 a.m. (908) 753-7364.

NEWARK — The Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) hosts a Homeownership Fair as part of the Third Annual National Homeownership Week at New Community Fairway Shopping Center, 11 a.m. (973) 636-7835.

QUEENSBURG — The Port Authority of New York and New Jersey and Queens Air Services Development Office presents the 17th Annual Aviation Networking Conference at the Crowne Plaza at LaGuardia Airport. Call (718) 244-6552.

TRENTON — The New Jersey Business and Industry hosts the ELB Biennial Dinner at the Hyatt Regency Hotel in Princeton, 6 p.m. (609) 383-7707.

BASKING RIDGE — The New Jersey Business and Industry hosts a seminar on venture capital for consumer companies at Lument Technologies, 4 p.m. (908) 452-1010.

SADDLE BROOK — The U.S. Small Business Administration and the Region Cooperative Extension hosts a statewide Y2K Summit for small and mid-sized businesses at the Marriott, 8:30 a.m. (908) 842-7345.

FRIDAY, JUNE 11

MILLVILLE — The Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) hosts a seminar on marketing the sale of a last home at Star Line Community Hall, 1 p.m. (609) 625-6960.

MONDAY, JUNE 14

EDISON — The New Jersey Association of Women Business Owners (NAWBO) hosts its Installation Awards Dinner at the Clanton Hotel, 6 p.m. (732) 494-4545.

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 16

NEW YORK — The Paradigm Company hosts a seminar on lowering costs while optimizing management, control and performance at the Port Authority Building, 9 a.m. (212) 606-2396.

NEW YORK — The Port Authority of New York and New York hosts a seminar and discussion on the buyers exchange at the Port Authority Building, 9 a.m. (212) 453-5312.

CHEERY HILL — The New Jersey State League of Municipalities hosts a seminar on accounting records at the Holiday Inn, 8:30 a.m. (908) 695-3481.

NEW YORK — The NNPA (National Newspaper Publishers Association) hosts its annual convention at the Sheraton Hotel. Call (202) 598-8764 for information.

AAAA promotes African American agencies

AMELIA ISLAND, FL. — The American Association of Advertising Agencies (AAAA) announced the formation of a new committee dedicated to its member agencies specializing in the African-American market.

The announcement was made by AAAA president and CEO O. Burch Davis as part of his introduction to a General Session on "Multicultural Markets and Media Issues and Challenges" at the AAAA Management Conference & Annual Meeting held at

The Ritz-Carlton Amelia Island.

The AAAA African-American Advertising Committee has been established because of the positive results of a poll conducted among its African-American agency members, who agreed unanimously to organize the new group. The creation of the committee follows the formation of another agency group representing a specific multicultural market, the AAAA Hispanic Advertising Committee, established in October 1997.

The new committee's primary mission is to enhance the value and role of AAAA member African-American advertising agencies among clients, industry groups, and consumers. As such, the committee will act as a unified voice on critical issues affecting the African-American agency business in order to improve its unique role among key social, political and business communities. The group will also strive to facilitate communication between marketers and the African-American com-

sumer.

Gene Morris of E. Morris Communications, Chicago, has been elected chairman of the committee, which currently has 12 senior agency officers serving as its members. The committee members will meet a minimum of four times a year to implement the committee's goals and initiatives.

"The formation of the AAAA Advertising Committee is further evidence of the increasing importance of the agencies with specific market exper-

tise, and the inherent value provided to major marketers by African-American advertising agencies," said Mr. Morris. "By working in partnership, this distinguished group of agencies hopes to enrich the existence and enhance the perception of advertising agencies specializing in reaching the African-American consumer."

Harley Griffiths, vice president, AAAA Membership Division, serves the committee as the association's staff representative.

Down to Business

Black public firms growing in number & impact

By John William Templeton

This is the kind of meeting that Marcus Garvey and Booker T. Washington would have been thrilled to attend.

Diversity and Capital Markets was the topic for the third year at the New York City-based Securities Analysts on Friday, May 21, a program initiated by Bannister Greer, president of Cromwell, Miller and Greer, a New York broker.

It is an annual showcase for Black publicly-traded companies, a number that has grown despite the management buy-back of BET Holdings, which had been the most visible such firm.

Despite the fact that African Americans have twice the income of the rest of the entire sub-Saharan African continent, the number of African American public firms pales in comparison to the 1,200 public companies in African exchanges and Caribbean stock markets. The Grier Global 2000, an annual special edition of Grier, the African American, African and Caribbean business daily, presents profiles of all those companies this week.

In 1999, there is a significant technology sector in the U.S. Advanced Engineering Development (NASDAQ:AED) focused on information technology in Africa. OAO Technologies (NASDAQ:OAO) is a major computer services provider to major corporate and medical clients. After a long journey through the wilderness, Black Americans of Achievement (NASDAQ:BAOA) has begun to implement its call center strategy in the "downside" zone. Ault (NASDAQ:AULT) makes power supplies for cell phones and other electronic devices. Covad (NASDAQ:COVD), led by Robert Kowalski, has lowered around the \$100 per share mark given excitement about its technology for high-speed communications over existing copper wires. Symantec (NASDAQ:SYMT) recently selected John W. Thompson as its chairman and CEO. This software maker is most known for its SAM anti-virus and Norton Utilities.

Radio One (NASDAQ:RAOA) the operator of 25 Black-formatted radio stations nationally, just joined the club recently with the most successful initial public offering among black companies. In contrast, Granite Broadcasting, owner of 10 television stations (NASDAQ:GBTV), is facing calls from analysts to replace its management, an example of the risks to black executives from going public.

Going public also means all your business is literally on the street. Carver Bancorp (NASDAQ:CNV) has

had its CEO search done in the place of real-time reporting of the merger attempt with Boston Bank of Commerce.

Despite the turmoil, Carver remains the largest black-owned bank in the country. Chapman Companies (NASDAQ:CMAN) has been the first Black-owned brokerage to create a nationwide network of offices.

United American Health Care (NASDAQ:UAHC) has announced a new contract with the latest casino in Detroit, after scaling back from Medicare contracts in Tennessee.

American Shared Hospital Services (NYSE:ASHS) has begun to buy back its own stock in order to reflect the results of its investment of some of its assets.

Alumni Goldfields (NYSE:ASGL), the largest black public firm on the African continent, dropped two-thirds in the past year due to gold selloffs by European nations. And once it rebounded in the last few weeks, thanks to inflation fears, its workers went on strike at its largest mine, Obuasi in Kumasi, Ghana.

For the past several years, this conference has sparked a ramp in these stocks because they came into the radar screen of major analysts. However, the most important advice they need is black investors, who can overcome the persistent under valuation of black firms both here, in Africa and the Caribbean while taking advantage of some real bargains. Granite, like BET Holdings last year, is dramatically under the stock price of similar broadcast companies. It is being punished by Wall Street for not selling its stations to the huge broadcasting monopolies sweeping the nation. Our dollars can help insure that this lone remaining black presence in television survives.

When we put our money up, we not only help develop our communities, but also managers to keep the bottom line moving upward and upward—the only measurement that really counts in the stock markets. With such a capital base, the number of black public firms could grow beyond 100 in a short time span.

John William Templeton is executive editor of "Grier," the African American, African and Caribbean business daily. Track Grier's Black Stock Worldwide index at <http://www.black-money.com>

Investing in your financial future

By Vernon L. Trotter

When beginning an investment program, it's important to understand the basic types of financial instruments. There are three general categories of investments: stocks, bonds and cash equivalents.

Understanding these classifications is the first step in choosing a financial program that is best suited for your own needs.

What Are Stocks?

Also known as equities, they represent a share of ownership in a corporation.

Shares of stock are offered for sale by companies as a means of raising money and providing investors an opportunity to participate in the overall performance of the company. The value of a share of stock may fluctuate more than that of bonds or cash equivalents, which are usually associated with less risk.

Over the long term, however, stocks as an asset class generally have produced a higher return than either bonds or cash equivalents.

Of course, past performance is no guarantee of future results. And remember, performance will vary among individual stocks.

What Are Bonds?

Bonds are issued by a company or government entity as a way to borrow money. Bonds represent loans made by the bondholder to the company or

government entity that issues them.

A company may issue bonds because it needs funds to expand its business, while a government entity may issue bonds to build or improve roads. Bonds are generally expected to provide an investor with a fixed rate of interest and to repay the principal amount of the investment on a stated future date (at maturity). Bonds are generally considered to be less risky than stocks but more risky than cash equivalents.

What Are Cash Equivalents?

Cash equivalents are "liquid" assets—assets that can easily be turned into cash. They include Treasury bills, bank certificates of deposit (CDs), commercial paper (the short-term IOUs of large U.S. corporations) and money market funds. Cash equivalents carry less risk, in terms of volatility, and have historically produced lower returns than stocks and bonds.

What About Mutual Funds?

Mutual funds are not another cat-

egory of assets. They are investment vehicles that pool assets from many people to invest in one or more of the three general investment categories described above.

By pooling assets from many investors, a mutual fund can invest in many different stocks, bonds or cash equivalent securities.

Such diversification has the potential to lower risk by spreading it among a number of investments. Based on the fund's investment objective, a professional portfolio manager makes investment decisions for the fund.

Some mutual funds are aggressive, while some have more conservative objectives. The range of different investment objectives is important, because it means that you can choose a fund that closely matches your own financial goals, objectives and risk tolerance.

Your financial advisor can help you determine which types of investments are suitable for your own financial situation, goals and risk tolerance.

Vernon L. Trotter is a retirement planning specialist for Morgan Stanley Dean Witter in Fairfield, N.J.

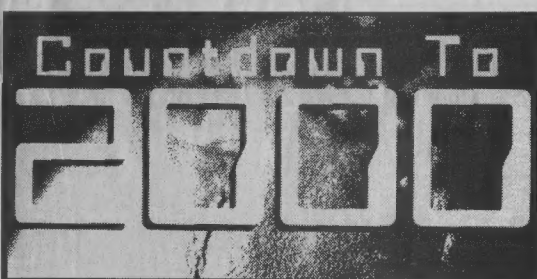
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Local Briefs

Ex-Rutgers professor sued for sexual harassment

NEW BRUNSWICK (AP)—A Rutgers professor sued last year for his affair with a graduate student has been sued by five former and current students who say he harassed them and stole their work.

The lawsuit filed Wednesday alleges that William Powers lowered one student's grade from an A to an F, stole her dissertation and gave it to another student.

"Students pay for an education, not for abuse," plaintiff David Oestreicher said. "Students have a right to expect that the university will enforce proper rules of conduct, that it will not tolerate the defamatory, detrimental and sexual harassment of students, nor allow their work to be stolen by any member of the university community."

Powers, 63, of South Brunswick, lost his job as an anthropology professor last June. In an unprecedented move, Rutgers agreed to pay Powers \$92,500 in exchange for his resignation and has agreed not to sue the university.

Powers and Rutgers officials declined comment on the lawsuit.

Drug arrests show severe slowdown by troopers

TRENTON (AP)—State troopers on the New Jersey Turnpike have been cutting back sharply on their drug arrests linked to traffic stops, patrol officers say, though it is not clear when the slowdown began.

So far this year, troopers averaged 42 drug arrests a month from January through April, compared with an average of 182 drug arrests a month in the same period of 1998, according to figures provided by the State Police. This marks a striking drop of more than 75 percent.

The rate of the sharp drop when measured just the month of April. In 1999, troopers on the turnpike arrested 13 people for drugs, compared with 166 in April 1998, down 90 percent.

With only partial data available, the slowdown in drug arrests could have started with any number of developments, from the shooting of three unarmed men on the turnpike 13 months ago to the firing of Superintendent Carl Williams three months ago.

Asbury Redevelopment

continued from pg A1

Baptist Church "stakeholders," as Samuels referred to the residents and property owners, are active in reshaping how the new neighborhood will look by imparting their ideas to the commissioned architect James Watt. Built into the plan is challenging rhetoric that encourages residents to cast aside the old "business as usual" attitude and to start thinking anew.

In keeping with this new spirit, Asbury Park has revitalized a program, which is helping low-to-moderate income residents purchase their first home. Funded through a community development block grant, the program allows potential first-time buyers who qualify to apply for a \$5,000 no-interest loan that can be used as a down payment or for closing costs.

"Right now the city has 75 percent renters and 25 percent owners, the city is looking for a way to reverse it," said Samuels. "People have a difficult time getting the front money for a down payment to buy."

In conjunction with this program, homeowner education is given free of charge to those residents interested in becoming buyers. The city held a Homeownership Information Fair on June 5. On site credit reports were given to people at the fair, while extending to others important information helpful in buying a home in need of repair. The city also has a special mortgage program in place for those residents interested in purchasing a home that requires fixing up.

Saunders, whose term as mayor will end in 2001, said, "I feel confident that we're on the verge of signing with a developer to redevelop the beach front area." Unable to disclose the name of the developer due to legal formalities, the mayor stated the deal could be finalized within a few months.

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Local officer helped keep drugs in the ghetto

NEW BRUNSWICK (AP)—It's a case that could come down to the words of a drug dealer against a decorated detective.

Cory Ashford says he sold the drugs, while 10-year police veteran James Marshall offered protection for a share of the proceeds.

Ashford is a key witness in a police corruption investigation that has led to the indictments of two police officers. In an interview published in a local paper, Ashford said he decided to blow the whistle and go to state police when he wanted to lead a normal life again.

The officers' defense attorneys maintain the state's case rests on criminals who can't be trusted.

Marshall, a narcotics detective, was indicted in December on 15 counts of promoting prostitution, official mis-

conduct, drug distribution and perjury. His lawyer, Jack Arsenault, argued that the indictments were based on the testimony of "convicted felons, drug dealers and prostitutes and wholly circumstantial."

The Middlesex County Prosecutor's Office refused to comment.

Ashford said he bought home anywhere between \$500 and \$10,000 a week. He told the newspaper Marshall did ask him to be an informant at first. When he declined, the detective laid out a plan where Ashford would work the streets and give Marshall a percentage of sales. There were two conditions: no weapons were to be dealt and the drugs had to remain within the ghettos.

"I could have said no. But then again, he was a cop," Marshall said. "I

was in a no-win situation. He was in a position of authority and I wasn't I had to go along with him."

Ashford said Marshall told him narcotics detectives' work schedules and let him know when there were drug busts. Other police officers recall that Marshall used Ashford as an informant and didn't want any money from him, Arsenault argued.

He pointed to Ashford's long criminal record of arrests for drugs and assault.

Ashford responded: "Look, I'm not saying that I'm a saint and that I didn't get caught up in the whole street life. But I was trying to get my life back together before I met Jim Marshall. I was trying to change my ways and do what was right."



"The Lion Will Lay Down with the Lamb"

Wood with images burned into the grain are a specialty. "Adam in Asiatic African Stardust" presents one image of creation: mankind being pulled up from the dust while woman forms in the background. "Abraham's Promise" depicts three guardian angels protecting three expectant women. Natural light in the wood form the authors' bodies seen through the mothers' bodies, a delightful trademark of Pharaoh's works in wood.

Other wood burnings include "Drum and Dance," with the joyous kinetic explosion of dancers and drummers celebrating life. In "Abstract Four Birds," the feathered creatures evoke the freedom of flight.

Call (908) 685-8277 or (973) 698-1120 about the reception, show and sale, scheduled from 3 to 7 p.m.

Male prison guard wins millions in sexual harassment case

MOUNT HOLLY (AP)—State officials say they plan to appeal a jury's award of \$3.75 million to a male prison guard who accused a female co-worker of sexually harassing him because he refused to have sex with her.

After deliberating less than an hour, the Burlington County jury found that state corrections officials did nothing to stop the ongoing harassment of Robert Lockley Jr., even after he complained to supervisors at the Mid-State Correctional Facility at Fort Dix. The panel also determined that Lockley's co-workers and supervisors retaliated against him after he reported the harassment.

He was awarded \$3 million in punitive damages and \$750,000 in compensatory damages.

Rita Malley, spokeswoman for the Attorney General's Office, which defended the state, said the state is looking at options for a possible appeal.

Lockley filed a civil lawsuit in 1994 alleging Ronda Turner, 37, began harassing him in 1990, when he was transferred to work with her on the same shift. She allegedly called him up

to invite him to her home, but he said he declined, saying he was married and not interested.

Turner then began following him around the prison grounds, repeatedly asking him to go out with her or have sex, the suit alleges.

Lockley testified during a three-week trial that in 1993 Turner, joined by Jacqueline Jones and Linda Pines-Shelley and some other officers, escalated the harassment. He said Turner repeatedly called him on the telephone while he was on duty, slammed doors on him, refused to unlock doors so he could report to work and threw snowballs at him. No individual officers were named as defendants in the lawsuit.

Deputy Attorneys General Manita Patel and Andrew J. Walto argued that no sexual harassment or retaliation took place. They contended the officers simply did not get along.

Legal experts say lawsuits in which a man accuses a woman of sexual harassment are very rare, accounting for 10 percent to 15 percent of all such suits.

Jersey City returning to local control

TRENTON (AP)—After 10 years of running the Jersey City School District, state education officials say they want to begin returning it to local control.

Education Commissioner David Hespe is expected to present a plan to the state Board of Education for phasing out state operation of the district.

Hespe plans to propose a two-to-three-year process for the state to withdraw and the district to reclaim local control of its 42 schools and 32,000 students.

The state currently operates two other districts — Paterson and Newark. Jersey City would be the first to regain local control.

DeSando said Jersey City needs to get the community more involved with its schools. A state Supreme Court decision handed down last year calls for urban districts to create community

teams to help rebuild elementary schools — a process known as whole school reform.

Bob DeSando, education department spokesman, said the district has improved tremendously since it was first taken over. Reading, writing and math scores on state tests for 11th-graders have improved, while scores in reading and math, but not writing, have improved on state tests for eighth-graders.

State education officials have also said that problems of corruption and mismanagement that caused the district to be taken over by the state in 1989 have been fixed.

Jersey City Mayor Bret Schumder agreed that it's time for the state to relinquish control of the school district, but added that the takeover failed to accomplish all the state's objectives.

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Celebrity Showcase

1999 Plainfield High School Prom

For a couple of hours leading up to Plainfield High School's senior prom, the parking lot of the school was transformed into a spectacular traditional event that would rival any Hollywood movie premier - police roadblocks, Rolls Royces, Mercedes Benzs, countless limousines, the flash of cameras, and of course all the stars of the show striking a pose.

Indeed, it was a sight to see, ladies clad in sherbet colored chiffon, red sequin, electric blue boas, metallic orange, low cut, back out, strapless, to risky silver lame gowns were in good company, with gents who adorned top hats and ornate walking sticks along with creative inspired tuxedos, knee length walking coats in gold, black and white, as well as the traditional tails.

A community united, parents, grandparents sisters, brothers, aunts, uncles, cousins and classmates turned out in droves to receive the students who commanded celebrity status on this occasion. As car doors opened to reveal the next unexpected fashion feature the crowd anxiously jockeyed for position to get a peek. This within itself was an off-the-hook spectacle to see.

Twenty-years from now all those students who attended Plainfield High School's 1999 senior prom will look at themselves captured on film and either laugh or cringe at what use to be. By then May 28, will have become a very precious memory when all of them were celebrities.

photos by Pablo Tinio



Rashon Thomas and date Andra Simmons strike a pose in front of the Rolls Royce that transported the couple to the prom



Alvaro Estrada and his date Idalia Araya strike a pose



Lashonte Stembridge and Lauren McDaniel created a unique look



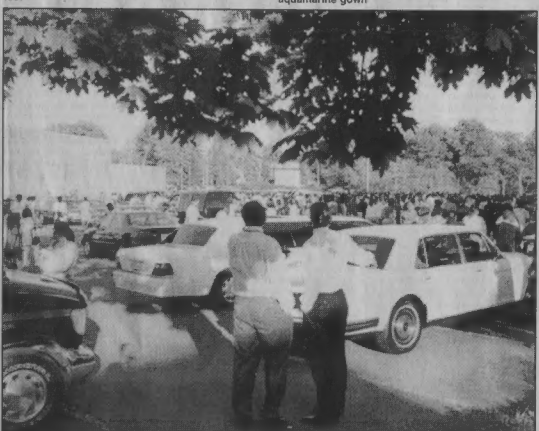
Katrell Brooks and Tanisha Jones look picture perfect



Ayanna O'Brien is a statuesque model in this soft aquamarine gown



L-R Allen Bailey, Justin Hughes and Bryan Bailey put the "S" in smooth posing in front of a fire engine red Mercedes



People gather to receive the prom attendees while limousine drivers wait to whisk the couples to the Pines Manor

RELIGION

SATURDAY, JUNE 12

JACKSON — Soul Brothers Gospel Company presents gospel recording artist John P. Kee and New Life Community Choir at Six Flags Great Escape. 4 p.m. (732) 422-5674.

NEW BRUNSWICK — The Crossroads Theater Company presents the gospel play "Another Chance." Call (973) 695-0852 for information.

SATURDAY, JUNE 26

NEW YORK — McDonald's presents the 15th Annual GospelFest at the Theater at Madison Square Garden. 7 p.m. (212) 754-9181.

\$7.5 million Christian Academy opens soon

NEWARK — After nearly eleven years of planning and fundraising, Bethany Christian Academy will open in September 1999. The Academy is a separate corporation related to Bethany Baptist Church, one of the oldest and largest churches in the city. The Academy's new \$7.5 million home has 25,000 square feet and will accommodate, when fully operative, 240 students in pre-kindergarten to grade 6 classes.

The Academy's Board of Directors announced that Sandra Bratman Tryman of Montclair will be the new Principal/CEO.

Mr. Richard Roper and Ms. Ollie Washington, both members of the Academy's Board who spearheaded the search process, announced that selection of Mrs. Tryman ended a two-year national search they reported. "The board is pleased that Tryman met all our criteria for our private school and because she is a New Jersey native with broad experience in the public school sector, will understand the mission of our school."

Tryman has been in education more than 30 years. She served seven years as both assistant and superintendent of schools in Roselle. Earlier she has been an elementary teacher, social studies specialist, reading specialist, director of early childhood education, and a school principal. She was principal of an early childhood learning center. She has worked in Newark, East Orange, and Roselle. She was an exchange teacher in England at a church-related primary school.

Mrs. Tryman has earned degrees from Columbia Union College in Maryland, a masters from Seton Hall, and is currently completing her doctorate at Columbia University's Teachers College.

When the new Principal/CEO spoke to the Academy's Board, she highlighted the challenge of working in Newark. She mentioned the city's rich resources and reinventions. "I believe we can build a multi-ethnic staff with a global view. All children can excel. We must provide foundations for excellence. Bethany Church has always been a leader in Newark and now in early elementary education, we can lead the way. I feel privileged to work with Bethany Academy." Tryman said as she spoke to the board.

The Academy's curriculum places heavy emphasis on values such as compassion, courtesy, diversity, responsibility, self-discipline, and conflict resolution. An Exchange Teacher's Program is planned. Foreign languages and a broad range of multicultural exposure will be built within the curriculum.

Dr. James Scott, pastor of Bethany Baptist Church and president of the Academy's Board, praised the Search Committee for its careful work. "Mrs. Tryman is the best of many candidates considered and interviewed. Because the Academy committed itself to quality education, and because we view our school as complementing public school, we needed an educational leader who appreciates how private schools could work closely with public school. She was determined to be the best candidate. We found her at our doorstep. She is enthusiastic about coming. We are delighted." Tryman begins her tenure June 21, 1999.

Positively Black

By Junious Ricardo Stanton

"To oppress a race and then label its reactions as 'mental illness' is not only morally wrong, it is criminal and a fraud." — Dr. William Tutman

Menticide: Literally mind murder; brainwashing; the systematic attempt to break down one's beliefs, attitudes and allegiances in favor of the ultimate adoption of those of another. — Dictionary of Psychology

The predominant pathology of self-hatred, self-negation, frustration and anger that exist in our communities — regardless of socio-economic status — is the direct result of a trans-generational program of brainwashing by the larger European community against its captive African population. Our reaction to this overt and covert oppression and racism has taken on many forms. Most are unhealthy and repulsive.

Africans were captured, transported to these shores and egregiously

abused for over 300 years. A key element in this ongoing oppression was to methodically turn us against ourselves by destroying our psycho-spiritual orientation, and identity as whole human beings. Europeans structured this society so that Africans and Native Americans were on the bottom of a rigid racial and socio-economic caste system. Every institution they created was designed to reinforce and maintain an unyielding racist ideology. To reaffirm this process Black folks were further stigmatized/punished whenever they resisted this dehumanization and oppression.

Once a process of African subordination was decided upon, every institution during colonial times — and following separation from British hegemony — was geared toward maintaining the status quo and coercing Africans to acquiesce to the notion of inferiority and subservient status. The idea of African inferiority was popularized throughout the colonies and was stepped up once the Republic was established.

Medicine — like religion and popular culture — was used to champion the enslavement of blacks and further terrorize our ancestors when they did what any normal human being would do: actively resist their debasement and subjugation.

In 1851, Dr. Samuel A. Cartwright gained fame by publishing an article stating that blacks exhibited mental diseases and illnesses he called Drapetomania and Dystaesthesia Aethiopica. He coined the disease Drapetomania from drapes, meaning run away slave and mania meaning crazy. Accordingly, the good doctor postulated Africans were crazy to run away from incessant mistreatment. The other disease he invented was Dystaesthesia Aethiopica. He said the symptoms were disobedience, refusing to work for nothing and answering disrespectfully.

Tickets may be obtained at the following offices, or by calling the following phone numbers: Frank Shoe Clinic 104 Watchung Ave. Plainfield, NJ, South Express 204 E. Front St. Plainfield, NJ, (908) 226-6076, (908) 606-2852 and (908) 756-6305.

A gospel musical drama comes to New Brunswick

NEW BRUNSWICK — "Another Chance," a gospel play that has a powerful message for youth and family, will touch your heart, make you laugh and let you know that God is still in control!

A special fund raising event to benefit the Plainfield Teen Parenting Program (PTPP). "Another Chance" is being sponsored by SBVS, Plainfield Teen Parenting Program, Inc., Lucent Technologies Pioneers and Shiloh Baptist Church in Gordonsville, Virginia.

"Another Chance" will be appearing at Crossroads Theater Company in New Brunswick, NJ, for two nights June 23 & 26, with a VIP Reception accompanying each performance with the playwright, producers and cast.

Works will be displayed by the renowned artist Martin Howard and there will be door prizes and a Chinese Auction. Ticket prices are \$40.00 (General Admission) and \$32.50 (children under 16 & adults over 62).

Tickets may be obtained at the following offices, or by calling the following phone numbers: Frank Shoe Clinic 104 Watchung Ave. Plainfield, NJ, South Express 204 E. Front St. Plainfield, NJ, (908) 226-6076, (908) 606-2852 and (908) 756-6305.

Will the tragedy at Columbine High be enough to let God back in?

By Bishop Earl W. Jackson

How many nightmare scenes of youth violence must America witness before we realize that this is the harvest of a generation which has turned its back on God? We have banned prayer from the public schools and God is out of public life. What happened on April 20th at Columbine High School in Littleton, Colorado was not the result of political or economic problems. It was the result of a spiritual breakdown. What is even more disturbing is that things are likely to get much worse unless Americans turn our hearts to God in spiritual and moral renewal.

As part of that renewal, the hostility toward people of faith, particularly Christians, must end. That hostility has never been more clearly evidenced than in the killing of one young girl who refused to leave the confessed to believing in God.

The young trigemeter, Eric Harris and Dylan Klebold, were consumed with thoughts of suicide, hatred and violence. They hated people of color, athletes and people of faith. Why? The messages in popular music, on television and in the movies ridicule faith and glorify violence. Moral relativism has undermined notions of absolute truth. Truth is simply a matter of personal opinion and morality a matter of mere personal taste. People who have professed faith are often characterized as stupid, uneducated, easily-led and fundamentalists. In this spiritual climate, why would these troubled teens place any value on their lives or their victims? It is, after all, just a matter of opinion and personal taste.

Perhaps an incident like this will make us rethink the 1963 Supreme Court decision banning prayer in public schools. It may even cause families to return to churches and synagogues, if only temporarily. Maybe. But in the aftermath of what is the most diabolical act of terrorism ever seen in an American school, we are all seeking the answer to one question: why?

The answer is never as simple as any of us would like. However, it is clear from what we now know that Harris and Klebold were outsiders, rejected by most of their peers. A death of fifteen at Columbine High suggests that these young men gave up ever being accepted. On April 20th, their demons of personal rejection won the spiritual battle for control of their lives. Neither of them was equipped for spiritual battle, and apparently so one he realized the kind of help they

NASHVILLE, TN — "Wonts will never express the fervor that God bestowed upon O'landa Draper during his lifetime. We praise God for allowing him to be a part of our lives and to contribute so greatly to the Gospel Music Industry." — The Word Entertainment Family

On July 21st, just one year after his passing, Myrrh Black Music Division, in celebration of Draper's life and his musical influence, is releasing a tribute to O'landa Draper & The Associates entitled, "A Celebration of Life." The project will feature many of Draper's biggest hits, including several songs that had previously been unavailable. The package will include dedications from some of the celebrity artists who loved and loved Draper, as well as a song from the first lady of gospel music, Draper's Myrrh label mate and friend Shirley Ceasar. Additionally, a never before recorded concert video will be made available for Draper fans and followers. The project and video will be in stores on July 26th.

In memory of Draper's contribution and his life, his peers in the Gospel Music Industry have declared July 21st, the anniversary of Draper's death, as an official day of tribute for remembering Draper's ministry and his passion for Gospel music.

Draper's accomplishments within



Gospel legend O'landa Draper

on July 26th.

Draper's accomplishments within the music industry are substantial. The six-time Grammy nominee, two-time Stellar Award winner and Grammy, Dove and Vision award winner performed for world leaders such as President Clinton, Bush and Carter, while simultaneously finding the time to take his gospel choir, O'landa Draper & The Associates directly to the community, feeding the hungry, helping to stop drug abuse and providing options for pregnant teens.

Draper & The Associates timely played an integral role in reinventing the gospel choir and guiding it into the modern era. Herkiah Walker, Director of the love Fellowship Chorale noted, "As a friend and a brother, I miss O'landa greatly. His contributions to gospel music will live in our hearts, always."

O'landa's passions fueled his gifts, his actions made his music real — a living, breathing sacrifice of praise, and because of his contribution to gospel music, and his life, O'landa Draper will be remembered forever.

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City News B4

June 9 — June 15, 1999

Billboard

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 9

MADISON — The New Jersey Shakespeare Festival presents the Shakespeare comedy "As You Like It" at the P.M. Kirby Shakespeare Theater. 8 p.m. (973) 438-3276.

FRIDAY, JUNE 11

NEW YORK — The Port Authority Cultural Department presents a salsa dance party at the Austin J. Tobin Plaza at the World Trade Center beginning at 6 p.m. (212) 456-4170.

NEWARK — The African Globe Theater Works presents the August Wilson's critical acclaim play "Ma Rainey's Black Bottom" at the African Globe Theater located inside Newark Symphony Hall. 8 p.m. (973) 624-1584.

SUNDAY, JUNE 13

STATEN ISLAND, NY — The Snug Harbor Cultural Center presents the 13th Annual Harmony Street Fair. 12 p.m. (718) 448-2500.

MONDAY, JUNE 14

NEW YORK — The 27th Annual JVC Jazz Festival hits New York City at different venues. Call (212) 495-9000 for information.

TUESDAY, JUNE 15

PLAINFIELD — The New Community Corporation (NCC) Arts Committee hosts an art exhibit of immigrant traditional arts at the Crescent Ave. Presbyterian Church. 12 p.m. (973) 639-7848.

SUNDAY, JUNE 20

NEW YORK — The Morris-Jumel Mansion Museum hosts a Father's Day Concert featuring the New American Baroque. 2 p.m. (212) 928-2005.

NEWARK — The New Jersey Performing Arts Center (NJPAC) presents the legendary Isaac Hayes. 5 p.m. 1-888-GO-NJPAC

TUESDAY, JUNE 22

NEW YORK — The Blue Note Jazz Club presents Bill Jackson and James Williams. 9 p.m. (212) 477-8592.

Showtime premieres second season of 'Linc's'

NEW YORK — "Linc's" returns for a second season on Showtime with 22 half-hour episodes of edgy, candid and outspoken comedy on Sunday, June 13 at 10:35 P.M. (ET/PT). The series, which premiered in the summer of 1998, invites viewers back to the popular bar and grill

season as the mysterious estranged wife of Johnnie B. Goode (George Stanford Brown), will appear in several episodes.



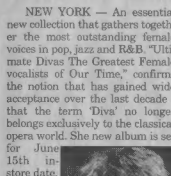
in Washington, D.C. "Linc's" deals candidly with adult issues, sex, politics and race — from an African American perspective. The series stars Pam Grier ("Jackie Brown"), Steven Williams ("The X-Files") and George Stanford Brown ("Tyson").

"Linc's" is created and executive produced by Tim Reid ("Frank's Place," "Sister, Sister") and Susan Fales-Hill ("A Different World"). The series co-stars Joe Inscoe ("I'll Fly Away"), Golden Brooks (Nickelodeon's "The Adventures of Pete and Pete"), Daphne Maxwell-Reid ("The Fresh Prince of Bel Air," "Frank's Place") and newest cast member Randy J. Goodwin (Showtime's "Fast Track"), as rap impresario Dante Harrison.

James Gurr, who was introduced in the first

season as the mysterious estranged wife of Johnnie B. Goode (George Stanford Brown), will appear in several episodes. An extraordinary array of talented women who have never been heard together in such an anthology before, "Ultimate Divas," begins its program with legendary recording from Billie Holiday, Lena Horne, Judy Garland, Dinah Washington, Sarah Vaughan, and Ella Fitzgerald the singers who provide the roots of female vocal artistry in the modern pop era. Gladys Knight, Tina Turner, Diana Ross, Dionne Warwick, and Patti LaBelle present a seamless transition into the contemporary

New cd celebrates the divas of the music industry



NEW YORK — An essential new collection that gathers together the most outstanding female voices in pop, jazz and R&B, "Ultimate Divas: The Greatest Female Vocalists of Our Time," confirms the notion that has gained wide acceptance over the last decade that the term "Divas" no longer belongs exclusively to the classical opera world. She new album is set for June 15.

Whether it was Annie Lennox's Grammy-nominated Arista album Diva or Whitney Houston's stunning "I Have Nothing" (both 1992 recordings) that began to change the public's mind, Ornette Coleman's showstopping performance of the Puccini aria "Nessun Dorma" at the Grammy Awards in 1988 — and the result cannot be denied V.I.H.'s "Divas Live" united Aretha, Mariyah Carey, Celine Dion, Gloria Estefan and Shania Twain for a landmark television event (and subsequent album and home video) that established the dominance of pop, jazz and especially R&B singers "Divas Live '99," with "Ultimate Divas," Whitney Houston, Tina Turner and Mary J. Blige among this year's stars, returned to television on last month.

80s. The current decade is represented by Chaka Khan, Annie Lennox, Toni Braxton, Mary J. Blige, Whitney Houston, and Aretha Franklin.

"For most of the 20th century, jazz, blues and pop singers were regarded by the most prestigious cultural gatekeepers as, at best, second-class citizens," writes noted author and music historian Nelson George in his liner notes to "Ultimate Divas." "Whereas the opera diva was a symbol of high-brow culture, these other forms were viewed as low-brow, whose mass appeal somehow confirmed their very unworthiness. Thankfully, the second half of this century has seen these notions overturned."

Whether it was Annie Lennox's Grammy-nominated Arista album Diva or Whitney Houston's stunning "I Have Nothing" (both 1992 recordings) that began to change the public's mind, Ornette Coleman's showstopping performance of the Puccini aria "Nessun Dorma" at the Grammy Awards in 1988 — and the result cannot be denied V.I.H.'s "Divas Live" united Aretha, Mariyah Carey, Celine Dion, Gloria Estefan and Shania Twain for a landmark television event (and subsequent album and home video) that established the dominance of pop, jazz and especially R&B singers "Divas Live '99," with "Ultimate Divas," Whitney Houston, Tina Turner and Mary J. Blige among this year's stars, returned to television on last month.

Nelson George writes: "The soul singer with gospel roots, the jazz vocalist with impeccable phrasing, and the pop star who can powerfully propel a solid hook are the world's divas — something conformed by the 'Ultimate Divas' collection."

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REMEMBERING VESELES: BLACK RENAISSANCE IN HARLEM!
SAT OCT 23/99/AGES 10 & UP
History comes to life in this tribute to the Harlem Renaissance written by Aniel Bonilla.
TICKETS: ADULTS \$11+CHILDREN \$9

Indie Arts
PINOCCHIO
SAT NOV 13/99/AGES 8 & UP
SUN NOV 14/99/AGES 8 & UP
An imaginative retelling of the classic children's story.
TICKETS: ADULTS \$11+CHILDREN \$9

New Jersey Music Education Association
ALL-STATE JAZZ CONCERT
FRI NOV 19/99/AGES 10 & UP
A special concert that unites NJ's best young jazz musicians.
TICKETS: ADULTS \$11+CHILDREN \$9

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A Kwanzaa season gala including tributes to community elders, music and dance performances, and special guest artists.
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Union & Umoano Dance Companies
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The Nguzo Soko, the seven principles of Kwanzaa, form the basis for this concert program.
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NJMC in association with City Theatre
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REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS PUBLIC HOUSING AUTHORITY HOPE VI PROGRAM MANAGER

The Housing Authority of the City of New Brunswick is seeking proposals from individuals or firms to provide Program Manager Services for the Authority's HOPE VI redevelopment effort. The individual or firm shall have a core experience in the provision of legal services for HOPE VI grants and other HUD funded and affordable housing programs, financial and development experience, and social services experience available, either in-house or through joint venture with others.

Information packages will be available and can be picked up by all interested parties at the Housing Authority Office, 18 Van Dyke Avenue, New Brunswick, New Jersey. Proposals must be submitted in triplicate and received no later than FRIDAY, JUNE 18, 1999, 1:00 p.m. (prevailing time). The Housing Authority reserves the right to waive any informality in any proposal, and to reject any and all proposals, and to accept such proposals and make such award as may be in the best interest of the Authority.

All questions after pick-up or requests for additional information shall be made VIA FAX to: Mr. John Clarke, Hope VI Coordinator, 732-241-8855

Kevin Quince, Executive Director
Housing Authority of the City of New Brunswick

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- E. Front St. & Terrill Rd. @ Dunkin Donuts
- E. Fourth St. @ Plainfield Train Station
- Grove St. off of W. Front St. at "Church"
- Madison Ave. & W. 6th St. [Unemployment Office]
- North Ave. @ Plainfield Post Office
- Park Ave. & Crescent Ave. @ Library
- Park Ave. & Seventh St. by Scott's Drug Store
- Park Ave. & Fifth St. by Red Tower
- Rock Ave. off Myrtle St. at Pfld. Health Ctr.
- South Ave. & Terrill Rd. @ Drug Fair
- South Ave. @ Italian Village Pizza
- South Ave. & Leland Ave. @ Burger King
- South Ave. @ Netherwood Train Station
- South Ave. @ "The House of Wash" Laundromat
- W. Front St. @ White Star
- Watchung Ave. & E. Sixth St. @ YMCA
- Watchung Ave. & North Ave. @ Pfld. Post Office
- Watchung Ave. & E. 2nd St. @ corner store
- Watchung Ave. & E. Front St. @ bus stop

NEWARK

- Bergen St. at Family Health Care Center
- Bergen St. at UMD Doctor's Office Center
- Franklin St. off Broad St. at Main Post Office
- 124 Halsey St. & Cedar St. at Unemployment Office
- Market St. & Washington St. at Park
- Market St. & Halsey St.
- Market St. & Alling St. at Bus Stop
- Market St. & University St. at Bus Stop
- MLK Blvd. & 13th St.
- Park Pl. at Travelodge Hotel
- Walnut St. off Broad St. (Immigration Bldg.)
- Washington Pl. at Washington Library
- University St. & New St. at University
- Frelinghuysen Ave. & Meeker Ave.

PATERSON

- Broadway St. at Dunkin Donuts at Courthouse
- Broadway St. & Memorial Dr. at Passaic College
- Broadway St. & Rosa Pk. Unemployment Office
- Broadway St. & Madison Ave. at McDonalds
- Broadway St. at Hospital
- Broadway St. at "Last Corner"
- Dill Plaza & Crosby Pl. at Post Office
- Market St. & Colt St. at McDonalds
- Market St. & Columbus Pl. at City Hall
- Market St. & Madison
- Market St. & Memorial Pl.

ELIZABETH

- Broad St. & W. Grand St. at Bus Stop
- Broad St. & W. Jersey St. at Bus Stop
- Broad St. & Dickerson St. at McDonalds
- Broad St. & Rahway Ave. at Court House
- Elmora St. & W. Grand Ave. at Dunkin Donuts
- George St. & DeHart Pl. at Dunkin Donuts
- N. Broad St. & Rt. 27 at Post Office
- Rahway Ave. at side of Court House
- Rahway Ave. at Cultural Ctr. & Bus Stop

EAST ORANGE

- Central Ave. & Maple St. at Dunkin Donuts #1
- Central Ave. & S. Clinton Ave. at corner
- Central Ave. & Halsted St. (Auto Parts store)
- Central Ave. & Halsted St. (Dunkin Donuts #2)
- Central Ave. & S. Harrison St.
- Central Ave. & Evergreen St.
- Main St. at Rickels
- Main St. & N. Essex
- Main St. at Post Office
- Main St. & Cleveland N.
- Main St. & S. Day St.
- Train Station

IRVINGTON

- Civic Square at City Hall
- Springfield Ave. & Lincoln Pl. Bus Stop
- Springfield Ave. & Civic Sq. Post Office
- Springfield Ave. & New St. Taxi
- Springfield Ave. & Clinton Ave. Terminal
- Springfield Ave. & Maple St. (Dunkin Donuts)

ORANGE

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The Township of Montclair Civil Rights Commission is seeking an individual to assume the position of Part-time Coordinator for the Civil Rights Commission. Responsibilities on Race program. Candidates must possess good computer skills for word processing, accurate data entry skills, the ability to maintain data bases, excellent verbal and written communication skills, as well as good organizational skills with the ability to perform presentations and interface with community members and organizations. Hours are flexible up to 19 hours per week. Apply: The Township of Montclair, 205 Claremont Avenue, Montclair, New Jersey 07042. Fax: (973) 253-1720. Closing date: Friday, June 25, 1999. Montclair is an EEO/AA Employer.

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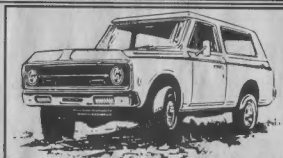
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If you are interested APPLICATIONS MAY BE PICKED UP AT THE FOLLOWING LOCATIONS: Township of Montclair Human Resources Office, 205 Claremont Avenue, Montclair, New Jersey between the hours of 9 A.M. and 4 P.M. Monday through Friday, the Montclair Police/Fire Departments located on the corner of Bloomfield Avenue and Valley Road and any Montclair Fire Station at any time and the Montclair Public Library during normal business hours. APPLICATION FEE: A NON-REFUNDABLE application fee of \$25.00 (enc. www.townshipofmontclair.org) must be submitted with the completed application. Applications submitted without the required fee will not be accepted. **Male certified candidates only.** **Female applicants are not eligible.** **Applications must be returned to the HUMAN RESOURCES DEPARTMENT. NO APPLICATIONS WILL BE ACCEPTED AFTER 4:00 PM ON FRIDAY, AUGUST 20, 1999.** EQUAL EMPLOYMENT AFFIRMATIVE ACTION EMPLOYER

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IBA

Ewing out for rest of playoffs

By Hal Beck

NEW YORK (AP) — Patrick Ewing, who played through injuries all season, will miss the rest of the playoffs for the New York Knicks because of a partially torn Achilles tendon.

Ewing underwent tests Wednesday morning that confirmed the injury, just hours after he missed a potential tying shot at the buzzer in Game 2 of the Eastern Conference finals against the Pacers in Indianapolis.

Ewing does not need surgery and a full recovery is expected, Dr. Norman Scott, the team's physician, said Wednesday. The 36-year-old center will be in a cast for six weeks.

Ewing told Scott before Tuesday night's game that he felt a "ripping" sensation "during warmups."

Nonetheless, Ewing played, limping much of the game. He scored 10 points and grabbed three rebounds in 25 minutes in the Pacers' 88-86 victory that tied the series.

In leading New York to victory in Game 1, Ewing had 16 points and 10 rebounds in 40 minutes.

The injury is yet another blow to Ewing's quest for a championship. He's been to the NBA Finals just once, when the Knicks lost to Houston in 1994.

"It's frustrating to work so hard and be so close to something I've dreamed about for so many years," Ewing said. "To not be able to be on the floor to help my teammates is very frustrating and disappointing. But if my Achilles ruptures completely, it would end my career."

His absence now makes New York's job even more difficult against favored Indiana. The Knicks are the first eighth-seeded team to make the conference finals, and Ewing was a big reason why, despite his injuries. Chris Dudley will take Ewing's spot at center.

"Patrick wants to play but the injury prevents that from being a possibility," coach Jeff Van Gundy said. "After all that he has been through this year, playing injured and doing what he could to help his team achieve the goal of competing for a championship, I feel very badly for him."

The 14-year veteran has missed almost all season by his sore Achilles tendon, and also has struggled with knees that need to be packed in ice after every game. He was out for most of last season with a broken wrist but came back in the second round of the playoffs, when New York lost to the Pacers in five games.

Ewing averaged 17.3 points and 9.9 rebounds during 38 regular-season games this year, missing 12 games because of his sore Achilles tendon. During the playoffs, which included victories over Miami and Atlanta, he averaged 13.1 points and 8.7 rebounds a game.

Strawberry decision could come within week

By Ronald Blum

NEW YORK (AP) — Sometime this week, Darryl Strawberry will find out when his suspension from baseball will end.

"It's a guess as to what's likely to transpire, and I don't engage in guesses in matters of this kind," union lawyer Gene Orza said.

The 37-year-old New York Yankees outfielder has been suspended since April 24 following his arrest for cocaine possession.

CNN-Sports Illustrated reported that in the next 48 hours, major league baseball will announce Strawberry will be suspended for up to 90 days, retroactive to his April 14 arrest.

The 90th day of his suspension would be July 13, the date of the All-Star game at Boston's Fenway Park.

A report on Strawberry by doctors for owners and the players association and by lawyers for the commissioner's office and the union was to be submitted to commissioner Bud Selig by today.

NBA, Hoop-It-Up World Tour comes to Kean University

UNION, N.J. — Local hoopsters will not want to miss the return of the Hoop-It-Up World Tour as it visits Union's Kean University (North Ave. parking lot) June 19 — 20. More than 2,400 players and 10,000 spectators are expected to participate in the New Jersey event, one of 44 cities on the 1999 U.S. Tour.

Hoop-It-Up, which is open to those ages 8 and older of all abilities, celebrated its tenth anniversary in 1998 and has hosted more than one million players since inception. The NBA

sanctioned the Tour as its official 3-on-3 basketball tour in 1997.

"The NBA is excited to continue its partnership with Hoop-It-Up," said NBA Commissioner David Stern. "This is the world's premier grassroots basketball tournament and we're proud to support it."

Tournament divisions range from Top Gun (college experience) to recreational, including special divisions for teens (17

and younger) kids (10 and younger) and players over age 35.

All teams are placed in divisions according to age, gender, height and skill to ensure a fair and competitive experience. In addition to the 50 street basketball courts set up for tournament play, Hoop-It-Up features numerous special events including NBA ball presentation to Gatorade and Spalding, Gatorade Crunch Time (2-on-2), Foot Locker 10ft. Slam Jam, Speed Stick Ultimate Shootout and Hyundai 3-Point Shootout.

Entry forms are available via

the Hoop-It-Up hotline, at (888) 813-PLAY. Interested players also may register on the official

Tour Web site at www.hoopitup.com or pick up discounted entries at area Foot Locker stores. The entry fee of \$108 per team (\$140 for Top Gun division) provides each team at least three scheduled games, registration deadline is Wednesday, June 9. Proceeds from team entries benefit local charities and spectator admission is free. Tournament play takes place from 9 a.m. to approximately 5 p.m. on

Saturday and 9 a.m. to approximately 3 p.m. on Sunday. References will be on every court both days of tournament play.

Winners of the men's and women's Top Gun divisions advance to regional competition, with the opportunity to advance again to the Hoop-It-Up World Finals in October. At the Finals, championship teams go head-to-head with NBA Legends and WNBA players on the Court of Dreams. World Finals action will be incorporated into a November NBC Sports broadcast.

NJ woman in Negro Baseball League honored

ATLANTIC CITY — "Mixed Signals," a play focusing on the remarkable life, career and times of Effie Manley, co-owner and general manager of the Newark Eagles of the Negro National League, will premier June 9 at Cooperstown, New York, during an annual symposium on Baseball in American Culture.

The John Henry "Pop" Lloyd Committee, based in Atlantic City, commissioned the play as part of its mission of preserving the legacy of Negro League baseball. Noted playwright Julianna Skutumpah created the drama. Atlantic City High School senior Katherine Blasband stars as Effie. After the Cooperstown premiere, "Mixed Signals" will next be performed in Atlantic City in August during a three-day celebration of Negro League baseball that has become an annual event of the Pop Lloyd Committee.

Effie Manley lived in a time of intense segregation in baseball as in other aspects of American life. She also lived in a time when women were rarely seen in executive positions, especially not in baseball. But she made her point about women's abilities by managing the Eagles, one of the best teams to ever play the game and the champion of the Negro League in 1946. Monty Irvin, Larry Doby and Doc Newman all played for the Eagles before moving on to the major leagues when the veil of segregation lifted.

Author Jim Overmyer, in his book, "Queen of the Negro Leagues," refers to Manley as a hard-headed business woman, derided as more a glamour girl, who turned the Eagles into the pride of the local community. He calls her an extraordinary woman who made her mark despite racial and gender discrimination.

"Mixed Signals captures the essence of Effie Manley and, in so doing, offers the audience insight not only into a chapter integral to the history of baseball, but also into the lessons learned through strength and dignity, pride and passion."

The June 9 performance of "Mixed Signals" will take place at the Bulfinch Theater of the National Baseball Hall of Fame, beginning at 7:30 p.m. For more information call 609-927-1597.

Coetzer commits to A&P Tennis Classic

1998 Finalist Returns to Mahwah For Third Time in Her Career

MAHWAH, N.J. — Amanda Coetzer announced her commitment today to compete in the 1999 A&P Tennis Classic. Fans will surely recall last year's exciting finals match, which pitted South African native, Amanda Coetzer against Mahwah favorite, Steffi Graf. Many anticipated a repeat of Coetzer's Australian Open performance the previous year which earned her the nickname "The Little Assassin" after a surprise victory over the then No. 1 ranked Graf. Despite an admirable effort in Mahwah, Coetzer ultimately lost in the finals 6-3, 6-3, allowing Graf to capture her sixth A&P Tennis Classic title.

Coetzer, who made her first Mahwah appearance at the Classic in 1996, joins the A&P Tennis Classic field for the third time in her 11-year professional career. Coetzer joins team superstar, Anna Kournikova, who previously committed to this year's tournament, as one of the A&P Tennis Classic's top contenders.

"We are pleased to announce Coetzer's return to Mahwah to compete in this year's tournament," said John Korff, Tournament Director. "She earned a great deal of fan support here in Mahwah after last year's courageous performance against Graf, and it was obvious that she possesses perseverance and a strong commitment to the game. We expect her to once again be a top contender for this year's A&P Tennis Classic title."

After her 1997 victory over Graf in Australia, Coetzer joined an elite list as one of only five players to defeat Graf three or more times in one calendar year. That year, she defeated Graf in the fourth round of the Australian Open, again in Berlin, and for the third time in the quarterfinals of the French Open. That same year, Coetzer earned a career high ranking of four, reaching the semifinals of two Grand Slam events (Wimbledon and the French Open) and capturing the biggest title of her career at Hilton Head. Highlighting off her incredible season, she became the first player to win three Top Awards in one year: Most Improved Player, Diamond ACES, and the Karen Kratzke Sportsmanship Award.

Currently ranked No. 14, Coetzer has captured a total of six WTA Tour singles titles and seven doubles titles in her career. This year, the 27-year-old reached the fourth round of the Australian Open and the finals of the Pan Pacific Open in Tokyo. Coached by Nigel Sears since July of last year, Coetzer is the spokesperson for the WTA Tour's F.I.R.S.T. Serve school program. She was also a member of the South African Fed



Tennis superstar Amanda Coetzer

Cup Team in 1992-93 and 1995-97 and the South African Olympic Team in 1992 and 1996.

The 22nd Annual A&P Tennis Classic, featuring many of the biggest names in women's professional tennis, opens this year on Monday, July 12th. The week-long tournament continues through Sunday, July 18th, at the Crossroads Corporate Center in Mahwah, New Jersey. For the second year, the Classic is proud to announce its association with the United States Tennis Association as it hosts a \$50,000 Challenger event. Qualifying rounds of the USTA Challenger, which features a field of 32 players — all ranked between 50 and 150 — begins at Ramapo College on Friday, July 9th, through Saturday, July 10th, with the A&P Tennis Classic moving to the Crossroads Corporate Center on Monday, July 12th.

Making an Impact

As a former teacher, it's no surprise Loretta De Luz, Ph.D., helps prepare neighborhood students for college. Although she owns three McDonald's in Wilmington, Delaware, she also finds time to get involved in the community on a state and national level. Loretta mentors minority student athletes for college and helps to lead the homeless through annual programs she helped establish in Eastern Vice President of the National Black McDonald's Operators Association. Her faith in the potential of every person makes a difference in the lives of everyone Loretta touches.

Reggie Webb makes a world of difference in people's lives. As President of the National Black McDonald's Operators Association, he helps get minority vendors into the McDonald's system, helping African-American businesses to succeed. Owning five McDonald's in southern California helps Reggie busy, but he's never too busy to help someone else achieve their dream of success.

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